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REPORT

50X1-HUM

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Economic - Coal industry

DATE OF
INFORMATION 1913 - 1952HOW
PUBLISHED Daily newspapers

DATE DIST. 8 Jan 1953

WHERE
PUBLISHED USSR

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE
PUBLISHED 16 Sep - 26 Oct 1952

LANGUAGE Russian

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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PROGRESS IN USSR COAL INDUSTRY

SOVIET PRESS GIVES PRODUCTION FIGURES -- Kishinev, Sovetskaya Moldaviya, 19 Oct 52

In 1950, the USSR coal output was 37 percent above 1940 and amounted to more than 260 million tons, 10 million tons in excess of what was planned for the Fourth Five-Year Plan and nine times more than the 1913 output.

MINISTER MAKES REPORT -- Moscow, Pravda, 12 Oct 52

Minister Zasyad'ko of the Coal Industry gave an address on the status of the coal industry at the Nineteenth Congress of the Communist Party. The highlights of his speech follow:

As a result of the fulfillment of the postwar Five-Year Plan, the coal output is at present 80 percent higher than the prewar level. In the Moscow Basin, almost 3½ times more coal is mined than before the war and in the Kuzbass and Karaganda two to three times more, while the Donbass has bettered its prewar output by almost 24 percent. Such an increase in coal production has made it possible to supply the fuel requirements of industry as well as to create necessary reserves.

In the postwar years, labor productivity has increased 35.8 percent in the coal industry.

The introduction of the coal-mining combine has, by 1952, pushed the level of mechanized loading at the mine face to 25 percent for the industry in general and to 50 percent in the Kuzbass and in Karaganda. Several thousand coal- and rock-loading machines are now employed in development work, making it possible to mechanize coal and rock loading in development work 40 percent. During 1952, about 800,000 meters of workings will be cut by mechanized methods.

The Ministry of the Coal Industry is carrying out large construction projects in addition to coal mining. In the postwar years, hundreds of mines and open pits with a total capacity of tens of millions of tons have been constructed and put into operation.

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MINE PRODUCES ABOVE-PLAN COKING COAL -- Frunze, Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, 26 Oct 52

The Mine imeni Romyantsev, the largest mine in the Donbass, has sent to a coal-cleaning plant the first trainload of coking coal above the 10-month plan. Workers of the 35th section of this mine have delivered the greatest amount of above-plan coal. In this section mining is carried out by a new method, so-called retreat mining, according to which coal removal is started at the far edge of the seam and is continued back to the main shaft. When this method of mining is employed, the labor productivity per miner is 90 tons per month. In the Artemugol' Combine, 18 sections are already employing retreat mining, and it is planned to have half the sections of the combine use this method by 1955.

MOSCOW BASIN INCREASES OUTPUT -- Vechernyaya Moskva, 25 Sep 52

Miners of the Moscow Basin completed the postwar Five-Year Plan on 16 August 1950, doubling their output during the period. At present, they are producing four times as much as in the prewar 1940.

The level of mechanization is increasing every year. In 1940, only 43 percent of the coal was mined with cutting machines but now more than two thirds of the total output is obtained this way.

In 1951, the cycle work schedule was first introduced in the Moscow Basin. At present, more than 30 percent of the faces are worked by this method; as a result, the average daily output has risen 20 percent and labor productivity 15 percent.

Several new mines were constructed in the 6 postwar years.

However, lags are to be noted in the area. Twenty-three mines and one third of the sections did not complete the 8-month plan. In some mines the plan for labor productivity is not being fulfilled.

GEORGIAN COAL INDUSTRY MAKES GOOD SHOWING -- Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 16 Sep 52

In 1951, the Georgian coal output was 233 percent higher than in 1940 and 58 percent higher than in 1948. The coal-output plan was fulfilled 94.6 percent in 1949, 101 percent in 1950, 105.1 percent in 1951, and 100.8 percent during 6 months of 1952. The Tkvarchelugol' Trust deserves particular mention; it has been holding the Transferable Red Banner of the Council of Ministers USSR for a year and a half.

TKVARCHELUGOL' TRUST, GRUZUGOL' COMBINE -- Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 3 Oct 52

By 11 September the Tkvarchelugol' Trust had already fulfilled the 9-month plan for coal output and on 24 September delivered the first hundreds of tons of fuel above the obligations which it had assumed.

At present, all mines in Tkvarcheli are exceeding the plan. The Mine imeni Stalin completed the 10-month plan on 29 September, the first mine in Tkvarcheli to achieve this performance. All sections of the mine are operating on the cycle work schedule and all of the workers are fulfilling their norms.

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TKIBULUGOL' TRUST, GRUZUGOL' COMBINE -- Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 2 Oct 52

The Tkibulugol' Trust fulfilled the 1952 first-half-year plan because of the superior work of two mines, the Mine imeni Lenin and the Gelati Mine. The other mines lagged. The work of the trust was better in August than in other months but, even then, out of 13 exploitational sections of the trust, only six fulfilled the plan.

KARAGANDA COAL INDUSTRY LAGS -- Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 25 Sep 52

Two trusts of the Karagandaugol' Combine, almost half the mines and sections, and more than 20 percent of the workers are failing to fulfill the plan and their norms. Only 20-23 faces out of the 50 which should be operating on the cycle work schedule are actually doing so and coal loading at the mine face is mechanized only 47 percent instead of the planned 65 percent.

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